

ABSTRACT

A policy server operates to configure differentiated services over multi-protocol
5 label switching (Diffserv/MPLS) in a communications network. The policy server
enables the definition and deployment of a customer policy, a network policy and a
mapping policy. The policy server is arranged to create a group of MPLS tunnels, and
associate the tunnels to the mapping policy and the customer policy. The customer
policy includes a tunnel group identifier and a tunneling mode, and maps customer traffic
10 to MPLS tunnels. The policy server translates the customer policy, the network policy
and the mapping policy into device-specific commands, and then deploys the device-
specific commands to the network interfaces of the affected network devices.